



Francis Gwynne Tudor (1866-1922)

Member for Yarra (Victoria) 1901-1922

Franc Tudor was born in Williamstown, Victoria and served an apprenticeship as a hatter. He worked as a hatter in Australia, England and in the USA, and became involved in union activities through his desire to improve conditions in the trade. Entering the Victorian Trades Hall Council as the Felt Hatters' representative, he was President of the Council by 1900.

In 1901 Tudor was elected as a Political Labor Council candidate to the federal seat of Yarra in the House of Representatives. Tudor served in three Fisher ministries and the first Hughes Ministry as Minister for Trade and Customs. He resigned from cabinet in 1916 over the conscription issue. Tudor was elected leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party after the departure of W.M. Hughes. He was Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives 1916-22.

Tudor suffered from ill health in the last few years of his life, and he died in office in 1922.

The electorate of Yarra was named after a local geographic feature (Yarra River). Yarra is an Aboriginal word meaning water fall or ever flowing.